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REPORT

OF THE

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL AND ORPHANAGE

For the Two Years Ending

November 30, 1906.

REPORT.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL
AND ST. VINCENT'S ORPHANAGE. }
SANTA FE, N. M., December 20, 1906. }

*Honorable H. J. Hagerman, Governor of New Mexico, Santa Fe,
N. M.*

Dear Sir: We beg to acknowledge receipt of your request for a statement showing the disposition of the territorial funds which we have received during the past two years for the use of St. Vincent's Orphanage and St. Vincent's Hospital, in Santa Fe, which statement you desire for your own information and for that of the incoming legislature.

We take pleasure in enclosing herein a financial report for the year 1905 and 1906. The various amounts given in this report are covered by itemized and receipted bills on file in the office of the Territorial Auditor, in accordance with Chapter 98, Laws of 1901.

Whilst we shrink from parading our work before the public, we at the same time realize that the public has a right to know what is being done in institutions which are largely supported by public money, therefore a few words about our orphan asylum and hospital here in the city will not be out of place.

We have at present 65 girls in the Orphanage, from 3 years of age up to 19. Fifty-two of these girls are of Mexican and Spanish parentage, and the others English speaking. They come from nearly every county in the Territory, as will be seen by the list of names annexed hereto. In 1905 the total number of girls enrolled at the orphanage was 80, and in 1906 a total number of 75 was enrolled. There is an average permanent number of 60 the year around. Nearly all nationalities and religions are represented, and, we may add, you cannot find a happier or more robust lot of children in our country today.

The school hours are from 9 a. m. to 11:30: and from 1:30 p. m. to 3 o'clock. Sewing class from 3 p. m. to 4:30; at 5 supper, at at 6:30 to 7:30 study hour. The intervening time is spent by the larger girls in learning to do all kinds of house work; for instance, cooking, washing, ironing, cleaning and arranging rooms, sweeping, dusting; and doing all this well. They also learn to properly prepare, arrange and serve a dining table. They are taught plain sewing. Many of the girls twelve years old make their own dresses and aprons. Fancy work is also encouraged to some extent, but the more practical arts, such as cooking and plain sewing, come first. Once a week an instruction is given by one of the Sisters on etiquette and general deportment, and special effort is made to impress upon the mind of the girls the great importance of industry and truthfulness, punctuality, personal neatness and cleanliness; in fact all that conduces to the building of a substantial character, and the forming of principles that go to make up the true woman and prepare her for the battle of life. Once a week also the girls have a spelling and grammar contest, and prizes awarded to the victors.

It is and has ever been our aim to make the institution as homelike as possible, hence the absence of a uniform dress. In a word, the girls are taught to be natural and live now as they will after they have left the Sisters' care.

There is one drawback in our work; the children are crowded in their dining room. After the sanitarium was burned, Sister Victoria found herself obliged to provide a sitting room, dining room and kitchen for use of the patients. She had to take three large rooms in the orphanage for these purposes, thus depriving the children of their dining rooms. They are now using a small room in the adobe house which crowds them to an uncomfortable degree, and renders good sanitation practically impossible.

These children are being taken care of at an average cost to the Territory of 30 cents each per day.

Now the poor in the hospital. We have at present twenty-four. They are crowded on the second floor of the hospital building; beds are often put close together in the hall when the wards are full. More room is badly needed for charity

wards. Besides this, we have no operating room, and a surgical ward is a necessity in any building bearing the name of hospital.

A great number of New Mexico's poor are brought to our hospital in Santa Fe, and many of them require the attentions of a surgeon. With no operating room, or facilities in this respect, and crowded into an old dilapidated hospital building, it is extremely difficult to do the work we have in hand. The appropriation we now receive from the Territory does not quite cover the cost of taking care of the charity patients. Drugs and groceries in this country are expensive, fuel and light are expensive, and when the bills are paid for the bare necessities of these patients, we have nothing left. Our sisters receive absolutely nothing for their work, excepting their clothes and board, and it is well known that these are inexpensive and plain. We mention this simply to call attention to the fact that none of our nurses receive a cent in salary, thus saving quite an item out of our appropriation. The amount thus saved goes to help pay bills for the support and care of these charity patients. The constant services, therefore, of eight sisters have been given free of charge to the Territory for many years past in these institutions. Certain of these sisters have acted as night nurses on an average of 250 nights in the year, and this in addition to their duties that had to be performed in the day time. This has been extremely hard on them and several have broken down in health on account of it, and have had to be replaced by others. The entire time of one sister is taken up in sewing and taking care of the younger orphan girls and babies; two others attend to their education, others to their training in house work. The care of 60 to 100 young girls means a vast amount of constant attention, supervision and hard work.

During the past two years 167 adults and 36 children have been admitted to the hospital; 143 of the adults and all of the children have been discharged; 22 have died. There is an average permanent population of 20 charity patients in the hospital. Two hundred and fifty-six prescriptions have been filled. In 1905 there were 8,148 hospital days; in 1906 there were 8,052, making a total during the two years of 16,200

hospital days. The average cost of caring for each patient has been 55 cents per day.

Among these patients 11 nationalities belonging to white races are represented, namely: German, Irish, Swedish, English, Scotch, Alsacian, Norwegian, Mexican, Italian, Spanish and American. Also three other races, the African, Indian and Japanese. The following religious denominations are represented among them: Episcopalian, Catholic, Lutheran, Jewish, Presbyterian, Methodist, Quaker and Buddhist.

These patients have come from 28 different towns and cities in New Mexico, located in the following counties: McKinley, Socorro, Bernalillo, Santa Fe, Torrance, Taos, Colfax, San Miguel, San Juan, Grant, Rio Arriba, Sierra, Sandoval and Dona Ana, and every county in the Territory has doubtless been represented at the hospital at one time or another.

The buildings we have been using for the twenty-two years as hospital and orphanage were erected without one cent cost to the Territory. We secured some private subscriptions to help construct these houses but our principal assistance in this respect came from eastern communities.

No portion of the Territorial money received by us has ever been used in the payment of insurance on these two buildings, which has amounted to several hundred dollars; nor for laundry work, a vast amount of which is done every week, nor for telephones, nor for the services of a choreman and gardner.

In view, therefore, of these facts and conditions, we respectfully ask you, Governor Hagerman, and through you the honorable members of the Legislative Assembly, if you will not make some provision to assist us in building an annex to our hospital in Santa Fe. We feel that with your help, and the money that we can collect or beg from the surrounding country, we will be able to erect a building suitable to this great need. It would surely afford you all much gratification and satisfaction to know that comfortable quarters were provided for New Mexico's indigent sick that fall to our care in Santa Fe. We are doing all we can to make the very best use of the money allowed us. We are willing and glad to

give our time and to the work, and feel sure that you will not refuse to help us, as you have always done, and for which we thank you in the name of God's poor afflicted ones and in our own.

In conclusion we cordially invite you one and all to come and investigate the work and buildings, and see for yourselves. We shall be glad to explain anything you may wish to ask about. Having through our own efforts and work provided shelter for a large number of New Mexico's indigent sick, and orphan girls, for a number of years, we feel that our request now for some assistance from the Territory in building an annex to the hospital, is just and proper, and that you will give it conscientious and careful consideration.

Respectfully and sincerely yours,

SISTERS OF CHARITY,
By SISTER M. CHARLES,
Superior.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

Financial statement for the period beginning December 1, 1904, and ending November 1, 1906.

1905

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Jan. 5, Territorial Warrant....	\$ 1,631.11	Water and light	\$ 275 74
April 5, "	572.00	Coal and wood..	739 61
July 5, "	896 37	Dry goods	192 71
Oct. 7, "	504 62	Groceries	1,323 67
		Meat.....	862 14
	\$ 3,604 10	Household goods	152 92
Pay patients	235 00	Hardware	83 71
		Repairs	200 00
		Drugs	175 52
	\$3,839 10		\$ 4,006 02

1906.

Jan. 5, Territorial Warrant ..	\$ 1,026.19	Water and light	\$ 235 20
April 6, "	706.21	Coal and wood....	795 00
July 7, "	1,026.19	Dry goods.....	275 98
Oct. 9, "	725 70	Groceries	1,323 05
		Meat	541 15
	\$3,638 14	Household goods.....	151 60
Pay patients.....	250 00	Hardware.....	83 71
		Repairs.....	250 79
		Drugs.....	197 20
		Painting woodwork.....	100 00
	\$3,888 14		\$ 3,953 68

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ST. VINCENT'S ORPHANAGE.

Financial statement for the period beginning December 1, 1904, and ending December 1, 1906.

		1905.	
RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS	
Jan. 15.	Territorial Warrant	\$2,044 60	Water and Light..... \$ 240 80
April 5,	"	1,080 94	Coal and wood.... 680 68
July 5,	"	1,344 56	Dry Goods..... 614 90
Oct. 7,	"	756 75	Groceries..... 1,257 40
			Meat..... 406 35
		\$5,226 85	Household Goods..... 150 00
	Donations	175 00	Hardware 288 45
			Repairs and plumbing..... 550 00
			Books, stationery, etc..... 75 00
			Bread..... 810 00
			Vegetables..... 185 00
			Milk..... 210 00
		\$5,401 85	\$ 4,968 56
		1906.	
Jan. 5,	Territorial Warrant	\$ 1,770 05	Water and Light..... \$ 225 00
April 14,	"	1,059 32	Coal and Wood..... 575 00
July 20,	"	1,539 27	Dry Goods .. . 542 57
Oct. 9,	"	1,088 54	Groceries..... 1,300 41
			Meat .. . 526 55
		\$5,457 18	Household goods..... 305 05
	Donations	200 00	Hardware..... 166 05
			Repairs..... 734 00
			Bread 403 50
			Painting..... 375 00
			Books and school supplies..... 75 00
			Blankets 173 55
			Shoes 200 26
			Milk 113 65
		\$5,657 18	\$5,715 59